

When we talk about teen violence and crime, it is cigarettes that are the gateway drug. We have got to address this issue. I ask the leadership to address this issue and to have good, strong tobacco legislation to stop young people from smoking.

TAX LIMITATION AMENDMENT IS STRAIGHTFORWARD

Mr. BARTON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, later this afternoon we are going to have a debate and a vote on the two-thirds tax limitation amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

This amendment is very straightforward. If it passes and it is passed in the Senate and goes to the States and is ratified by three-fourths of the States, it would make it a voting requirement. To pass a tax increase in either body or to expand the tax base would take a two-thirds vote instead of the one-half plus one vote that it now currently takes.

Mr. Speaker, when the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN), my good friend from Houston, was up here earlier talking about all the bad things that might happen and all the programs that might not be funded, I would point out that we are moving into a budget surplus. We would still have those programs. But if we wanted to spend more money, we would have a debate on spending priorities, not on tax increases, unless we could get a consensus. We would need a two-thirds vote in both houses of Congress to pass a tax increase.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote for the two-thirds tax limitation amendment.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma) laid before the House the following communication from the chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; which was read and, without objection, referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington, DC, March 31, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Enclosed are copies of resolutions adopted on March 24, 1998 by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. Copies of the resolutions are being transmitted to the Department of the Army. With kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

BUD SHUSTER, *Chairman.*

Enclosures.

RESOLUTION

[Docket 2551—Bronx River Basin, New York]

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United

States House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on the Bronx River, New York, published as House Document 897, 62nd Congress, 2nd Session, and other pertinent reports, to determine whether any modifications of the recommendations contained therein are advisable at the present time, in the interest of water resources development, including flood control, environmental restoration and protection and other related purposes.

Adopted: March 24, 1998.

Attest.

BUD SHUSTER, *Chairman.*

RESOLUTION

[Docket 2550—Mile Point, Florida]

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on Jacksonville Harbor, Florida, published as House Document 214, 89th Congress, 1st Session, and other pertinent reports to determine whether any modifications of the recommendations contained therein are advisable at the present time in the interest of navigation and other related purposes, with particular reference.

Adopted: March 24, 1998.

Attest.

BUD SHUSTER, *Chairman.*

RESOLUTION

[Docket 2549—Spring Bayou Area, Louisiana]

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on the Mississippi River and Tributaries Project, published as House Document 308, 88th Congress, 2nd Session, to determine whether any modifications of the recommendations contained therein are advisable at the present time in the interest of a comprehensive plan of improvement for environmental restoration and protection, flood damage prevention, improved drainage, and other related purposes in the Spring Bayou area.

Adopted: March 24, 1998.

Attest.

BUD SHUSTER, *Chairman.*

RESOLUTION

[Docket 2548—Rahway River Basin, New Jersey]

Resolved by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the United States House of Representatives, That the Secretary of the Army is requested to review the report of the Chief of Engineers on the Rahway River, New Jersey, published as House Document 67, 89th Congress, and other pertinent reports to determine whether any modifications of the recommendations contained therein are advisable at the present time, in the interest of water resources development, including flood control, environmental restoration and protection and other related purposes.

Adopted: March 24, 1998.

Attest.

BUD SHUSTER, *Chairman.*

There was no objection.

MAKING IN ORDER ON TODAY OR ANY DAY THEREAFTER CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3164, HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1998

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order on today, or on any day thereafter, for

the Speaker, as though pursuant to clause 1(b) of rule XXIII, to declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3164) to describe the hydrographic services functions of the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes, and that consideration of the bill proceed according to the following order:

One, the first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. Points of order against consideration of the bill for failure to comply with clause 2(l)(6) of rule XI or section 303(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived.

Two, general debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Resources.

Three, after general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule.

Four, in lieu of the amendment recommended by the Committee on Resources now printed in the bill, it shall be in order to consider as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the 5-minute rule the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD and numbered 1 pursuant to clause 6 of rule XXIII. Each section of that amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. Points of order against that amendment in the nature of a substitute for failure to comply with clause 5(a) of rule XXI or section 303(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 are waived.

Five, during consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may accord priority in recognition on the basis of whether the Member offering an amendment has caused it to be printed in the portion of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD designated for that purpose in clause 6 of rule XXIII. Amendments so printed shall be considered as read.

Six, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole may, one, postpone until a time during further consideration in the Committee of the Whole a request for a recorded vote on any amendment; and, two, reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on any postponed question that follows another electronic vote without intervening business, provided that the minimum time for electronic voting in the first in any series of questions shall be 15 minutes.

Seven, at the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. Any Member may demand a separate vote in the House on any amendment adopted in the Committee of the Whole to the bill or to the amendment in the nature of a substitute made in order as original text.